SAFE SHARPS DISPOSAL

Many Lowell residents use sharps to manage a variety of health care conditions at home, such as diabetes, allergies, and multiple sclerosis. The safe disposal of needles, syringes, and lancets, all known as sharps, is necessary to protect residents, sanitation/municipal workers, and the environment.



What should I do with my used sharps?

Used syringes and other sharps should always be placed in a sharps or puncture proof container, such as a rigid liquid detergent bottle or bleach bottle, and disposed of safely – either at one of the drop-off site listed below or to a mail-back program. Please do not clip, bend, or recap syringes. Always keep sharps and containers away from children and pets.

Can I put my used sharps in the trash?

No. Throwing syringes in the trash or recycling bin, or disposing them anywhere that is not a safe needle disposal container is against the law and could lead to a fine. Sharps that have been improperly disposed of pose a health and safety risk to the public and to sanitation workers. Sharps and syringes must be disposed of at a sharps disposal drop-off site or through a medical mail-back service.

What should I do if I find a discarded sharp on a public way?

If you find a sharp on a sidewalk or other public way, please call the Lowell Health Department's Syringe Collection Program at (978) 674-1049 during program hours or report a "Hypodermic Needle" on www.lowellma.gov just like you would report a pothole. To report a discarded sharp outside of the Syringe Collection Program hours, call the Lowell Police Department at (978) 937-3200. Provide the location of the needle(s) with as much detail as possible so that the responding agency can locate the waste.

Syringe Collection Program Hours

Monday: 8-4pm Tuesday: 8-7pm Wednesday: 8-4pm Thursday: 8-4pm Friday: 8-12pm

Where can I exchange my needles?

For needle exchange, referrals for substance abuse treatment, and access to other harm reduction services, please contact Life Connection Center at (978) 997-0588.

DROP-OFF SITES IN LOWELL

Lowell Health Department

107 Merrimack Street 4th Floor Lowell, MA 01852 (978) 674-4304

Mon, Wed, Thurs: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm Tues: 8:00 am - 8:00 pm Fri: 8:00am - 12:00 pm

Lowell Senior Center

276 Broadway Street Lowell, MA 01854 (978) 674-1171

Monday - Friday: 7:00 am - 3:00 pm

Lowell Regional Wastewater Utility

451 First St. Blvd (Rt. 110 at Dracut Line) Lowell, MA 01850 (978) 674-4248

Last Saturday of each month 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

Lowell Community Health Center

101 Jackson Street 1st Floor Lowell, MA 01852 (978) 459-8656

Monday - Thursday: 8:00 am - 8:00 pm Fri: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm Sat: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Life Connection Center

192 Appleton Street Lowell, MA 01852 (978) 997-0588

Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Call for assistance (978) 941-5853









